

# REACH

A publication of the U.S. Department of Energy for all Hanford Site employees



**BURNING OUT OF CONTROL:** As we went to press late last week, a devastating brush fire continued to burn on the Hanford Site. Ignited by an automobile accident Tuesday afternoon, the fire crossed State Route 240 on Wednesday, June 28, moving toward facilities in the 200, 300 and 400 Areas, the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center and the Patrol Training Academy. Only essential personnel were allowed into many areas of the site. At press time the fire had consumed more than 190,000 acres and had forced evacuations in West Richland, Horn Rapids and Benton City. The fire spread across the B-C Crib south of 200 East, but no airborne radiation above background levels was detected. No sensitive structures on the Hanford Site were damaged. Employees in 200 West took these photos from a rooftop as the fire approached the Central Waste Complex. The *Hanford Reach* will have a full report on the fire and its aftermath next Monday.

# First K Basins debris shipments go to ERDF

Michele Gerber, FH

Last week, Fluor Hanford completed its first shipment of what will ultimately be hundreds of thousands of pounds of contaminated debris from inside the K Basins. The shipment of 3 tons of waste, about 9 cubic meters, was transported to the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility for safe disposal.

The shipment was another key step in the Hanford Site vision to move nuclear wastes away from the Columbia River and consolidate them in the central plateau. The debris is solid waste consisting of used equipment, parts, tools and other objects contaminated with low levels of radioactivity.

The shipment was a joint effort by the Department of Energy Richland Operations Office, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and contractors Fluor Hanford and Bechtel Hanford. It culminated months of effort to develop the data quality objectives, sampling plans, procedures, understandings and protocols after an agreement last September brought K Basins cleanup under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, or CERCLA. ERDF accepts low-level, solid waste from Hanford's CERCLA sites and projects.

According to Larry Gadbois, EPA manager for the Spent Nuclear Fuel Project, the recent shipment and the many shipments that will follow represent tangible progress in Hanford's rivershore strategy. "We are extremely pleased to see the debris shipment from K Basins beginning," Gadbois said. "Movement of this debris from the rivershore to ERDF is the first on-the-ground action that removes radioactive waste from the basins as part of the CERCLA remedy for K Basins."

## Vast quantities

K Basins debris destined for ERDF consists of old fuel canisters and portions of the racks used to hold them, construction items that became contaminated during recent installations of new fuel-handling equipment, and other miscellaneous items.

Even the hundreds of thousands of pounds of equipment for fuel retrieval, water treatment, cask loadout and sludge handling will also become debris after the fuel itself is removed from the basins. This equipment and the steel gratings that now cover each of the two basins will become useless nuclear debris once the fuel is in dry, interim storage in the Canister Storage Building.

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**The HANFORD  
REACH**



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## First K Basins debris shipments go to ERDF, cont.

Most debris from the K Basins will go to ERDF in large, orange drag-off boxes (also called roll-off boxes), sometimes cut up or compacted and sometimes as whole pieces, depending on the items. Disposal costs for the ERDF are figured by weight, and the disposal of K Basins debris in the ERDF is more cost-effective than putting it in low-level burial grounds. Disposal of certain types of debris in the ERDF costs substantially less than disposal in Hanford's burial grounds.

One type of K Basins debris that will be unique to ERDF is the spent ion exchange modules that filter radionuclides from basin water on an ongoing basis while spent nuclear fuel is stored there. The fuel contains about 55 million curies of radioactivity that is constantly decaying. Radioactivity must be removed from the water in order to minimize doses to workers. The modules are large, square structures weighing about 21 tons each, already encased in concrete according to ERDF requirements. All water will be drained from them and they will be fitted with HEPA (high-efficiency particulate air) filters before they are transported to the ERDF.

According to Fluor Hanford SNF Project Facilities Manager Chris Lucas, enough K Basins debris to fill about four drag-off boxes has been staged and is ready for disposal. One shipment a month is planned for the near future, but that number is expected to increase after major construction projects in the K East Basin get under way in fiscal 2001. ERDF disposals from the K Basins are expected to increase from about 817 cubic meters in FY 2001 to nearly 1,000 cubic meters in FY 2003.

According to Ashur Michael, project engineer for BHI's Remedial Action and Waste Disposal Project, large volumes are no problem for ERDF. "Our disposal site was designed to handle a majority of Hanford's CERCLA waste," he said. "Since ERDF opened in 1996, we have already safely disposed of nearly 2.4 million tons of waste materials from along the river, including 80 tons of waste from the K East and K West reactors."

### Services valuable

Jeff Westcott of the Waste Generator Services group within the Waste Management Project assisted in developing the agreements between agencies and the sampling plans leading to shipment. He said working under the CERCLA process was unique for many reasons. "The direct involvement of the EPA in the planning process was helpful, in that all of the parties — BHI, FH, DOE and EPA — were able to negotiate plans that worked best for all of us," he said.

Manual surveys done by health physics technicians at the point of shipment, the 100K Area, will be used to verify radioactivity levels, while process knowledge and records will verify chemical content. Any wastes



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The first box containing K Basin debris is lifted from the low-level radioactive waste storage pad on its way to the ERDF.

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## First K Basins debris shipments go to ERDF, cont.

regulated under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) must be solid and be encapsulated to meet ERDF acceptance criteria.

The ERDF *does* accept wastes regulated under the Toxic Substances Control Act, including polychlorinated biphenyls, as long as they are in solid form and they are reported. But it does not accept any transuranic wastes. Recently, agreements were formulated to manage sludge from the K Basins as TRU waste, which will be shipped to T Plant in Hanford's central plateau. ♦

## Investigation of 200 East Area sulfur odor closed

On May 17, a "take-cover" notice was issued for Hanford's 200 East Area by the Hanford Fire Department. Multiple reports of the presence of a strong sulfur odor triggered the notice, affecting employees for about four hours.

An investigation into the nature and source of the odor was conducted by the Hanford Fire Marshal, who studied wind data and the locations where the odor was reported to determine areas for air sampling.

Based on that information, sampling was conducted around drain fields and septic systems in 200 East, in the 284-E and 284-W former coal pile areas and in the vicinity of the PUREX facility. The samples did not identify any source of a sulfur or hydrogen sulfide odor.

There were no health or safety impacts as a result of this event. Everyone who reported the odor was given the opportunity to be examined by Hanford Environmental Health Foundation medical personnel. The examinations showed no adverse health effects and the employees were returned to work without restrictions.

### Response was good

The investigation confirmed that emergency services personnel took swift and appropriate action. The decision to place the 200 East Area in a take-cover mode was based on the number of reports of the odor and the variety of locations they were coming from.

The careful, methodical search for the odor's source by the Hanford Fire Department ensured that the area was safe before the take-cover notice was lifted.

The Hanford Emergency Operations Center was partially activated to provide logistical support to the Hanford Fire Department incident commander and to keep employees and the media informed. All emergency actions were reviewed later to capture "lessons learned" from the event. ♦



**HAVE YOU SEEN THIS BIRD?** The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife is attempting to locate burrowing owls in Eastern Washington during the months of June and July. Burrowing owls are 10 to 14 inches in height, light brown and have long legs. Their wings are spotted and their breasts are light beige and barred. Typically they are found along roads, canal banks, short grassland habitats and non-irrigated pastures. They nest in underground burrows and are most commonly observed perched on fence posts or near their burrows. If you see a burrowing owl, please call (509) 575-2651, extension 177-4161, and leave a message with your name, phone number, date of observation and detailed description of the location where the owl was observed.

## **SELLS sets the industry standard for lessons learned**

Recent benchmarking by several commercial businesses demonstrates that the Department of Energy's Society for Effective Lessons Learned Sharing (SELLS) is a leading lessons-learned program. SELLS has recently assisted several commercial businesses with tools or information to help them develop their own lessons-learned programs.

In one recent case, SELLS transferred a copy of the DOE lessons-learned database software to J.M Huber Corporation for its growing "after-action review" process. (After-action reviews are the U.S. Army's version of lessons learned.) Motorola also received a copy of the software application more than a year ago.

Last month, SELLS co-chair John Bickford of Fluor Hanford briefed the Lessons Learned Improvement Team at General Motors on the DOE lessons-learned process. GM is consolidating and standardizing 13 separate programs that perform similar functions within the corporation.

GM contacted several leading authorities on the subject, including the DOE SELLS program, as part of its benchmarking effort. Representatives of the company have been invited to present the results of their lessons-learned program development representative of DOE, its contractors and commercial businesses at the next SELLS workshop. The workshop will be hosted by the Department of Transportation next October.

The Web sites for SELLS here at Hanford and throughout the DOE complex are at [www.hanford.gov/lessons/sitell/sitehome.htm](http://www.hanford.gov/lessons/sitell/sitehome.htm) and [www.tis.eh.doe.gov/ll/index.html](http://www.tis.eh.doe.gov/ll/index.html). ♦

# CTS achieves Support Center Practices Certification again this year

Customer Technical Support, also known as CTS, run by Lockheed Martin Services, Inc., has passed the Support Center Practices Certification for the second year in a row. The Support Center Practices Certification program establishes the service quality benchmark for all information technology service support centers and help desks.

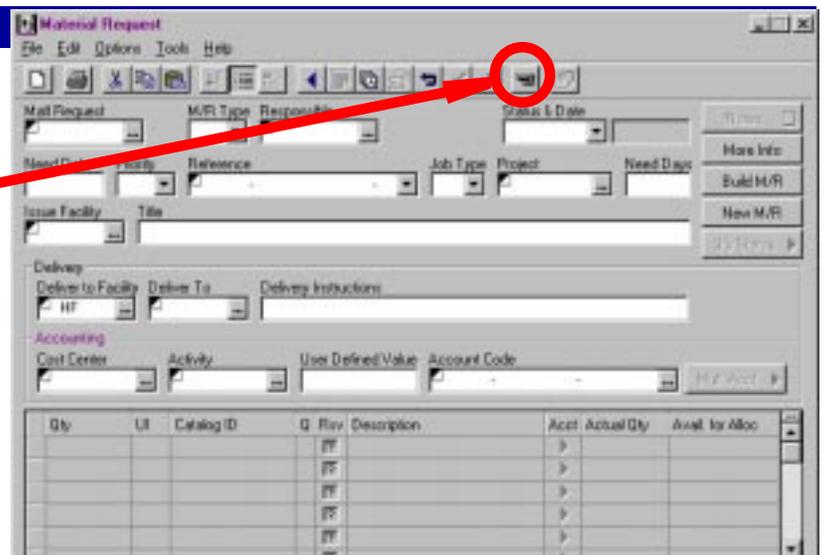
Twenty-four companies, including LMSI, develop the criteria and elements and provide sponsorship for the SCP certification program. These companies add insight and perspective into what really matters in delivering world-class service to information technology customers.

To be SCP-certified, a support center or help desk is evaluated according to 11 major criteria: customer relationship management, customer feedback, corporate commitment and strategic direction, people programs, training programs, performance metrics, automation tools, electronic service delivery, research and development interface, total quality management and sales interface.

The SCP auditor spent two days with CTS, reviewing all of the required documentation, speaking with support managers, observing the support center staff on the job, and interviewing the support team to verify that processes and procedures are in place and functioning.

The auditor, Greg Coleman of Service Strategies Corporation, wrote in his final report, "The Lockheed Martin Richland support operation is well run and has an excellent management team in place. The team is focused on delivering a high level of support to customers and meeting service level commitments. The Richland support center demonstrated excellence in the areas of customer relationship management, performance metrics, corporate commitment, and productivity tools. The Richland team demonstrated excellent performance as seen in audit scores that exceed the standards specified in the Support Center Practices Certification program and represent improvement over the 1998 scores." ♦

**FLYING WITH CO-PILOT:** Are you a new or casual user of the BMS PassPort procurement system and need help with entering a Material Request? There is a self-help tool available in BMS PassPort that is designed to guide you easily through building a Material Request with catalog stock numbers, non-catalog items or a combination of both. To activate the Co-Pilot self-help tool, simply click on the winged icon on the Material Request toolbar. Co-Pilot will guide you through each step of the Material Request process.



# Hanford is not the place to dump your household waste

Ron Del Mar  
DynCorp Tri-Cities Services

If you want to get rid of excess hazardous products from your home or garage, Hanford trash dumpsters are not the place to dispose of them. Items that seem to be coming from employees' homes are appearing with increased frequency in the trash being surveyed onsite by DynCorp Tri-Cities Services.

The discarded items include pool chemicals, pesticides and cleaning agents. Disposal of such items in the trash onsite is not only illegal, but poses potential health and safety risks to Hanford personnel involved in the pickup and segregation of trash.

Hanford trash leaving the site has undergone increased scrutiny over the past two years. In fall 1998, fruit flies were linked to the spread of radioactive contamination in the 200 Areas, which resulted in some radioactive contaminated items disposed of in the Richland Landfill.

## Trash surveyed

Because of these incidents, DynCorp now picks up trash from facility dumpsters on a regular schedule, and delivers the waste to the 4843 Transfer Station in the 400 Area. Here the garbage trucks dump the waste out on a concrete floor, and the waste is spread out and surveyed for radioactive contamination prior to landfill disposal. As part of this survey effort, DynCorp watches for other unauthorized items in the trash, primarily hazardous waste.

Over the past several months, DynCorp personnel at the Transfer Station have segregated a number of items out of the trash that appear to have originated in employees' homes. These items include lawn and garden chemicals, cleaning supplies, and wood working chemicals.

The most recent find was containers of pool and spa maintenance chemicals. In this case, disposal of these items in the trash created not only potential environmental problems, but also a safety problem to workers transporting and handling the trash. Most pool and spa chemicals are oxidizers, meaning that they will react readily with just about any other chemical. A chemical reaction could generate potentially toxic gases and even a fire.

Off-site in 1996, improperly discarded pool chemicals resulted in both a fire and the release of chlorine gas at the Kennewick K-Mart.

## Disposal options

What should you do with hazardous chemicals that you no longer need at home? Unlike hazardous waste generated on the Hanford Site, household hazardous waste is not regulated, which means that it can legally go into the regular trash at home. This is discouraged because the



Pool and spa chemicals, light bulbs, batteries, and adhesives are a few of the items being recovered in Hanford Site dumpsters. Disposal of household hazardous wastes and recyclables in the trash on-site is illegal.

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## Hanford is not the place to dump your household waste, cont.

hazardous constituents in these chemicals and materials could eventually leach from the landfill into the groundwater and contaminate the drinking water supply.

Both Benton and Franklin counties offer free services to the community to dispose of household hazardous waste. Examples of household hazardous waste items include paints, polishes, antifreeze, batteries, transmission and brake fluid, pesticides, adhesives and glues, cleaning agents, gasoline, propane cylinders, wood preservatives and stains, aerosols, motor oil and pool chemicals. For more information on any of the services offered in Benton and Franklin counties, residents can call one of the following numbers:

- [City of Richland Household Hazardous Waste Program at 942-7387](#)
- [BDI Transfer Station at 547-2490](#)
- [Waste Management of Kennewick Transfer Station at 586-7555.](#)

Hanford employees living outside of Benton or Franklin counties should contact their local landfill to see what options are available for managing household hazardous waste.

### Illegal waste items

Disposal of any hazardous waste item in regular trash dumpsters on the Hanford Site is illegal, regardless of its origin. In addition to the household items highlighted above, other hazardous waste items generated in offices and from workshop environments are being routinely discovered in the trash. These include batteries, light bulbs, cleaning supplies, aerosols, paints, degreasers, glues and sealants.

Batteries, light bulbs and aerosols can be easily recycled through the Hanford Centralized Consolidated Recycling Center. For more information on recycling opportunities, employees can call the CCRC at 373-6742.

Employees should contact their facility hazardous waste coordinator before disposing of any chemical or equipment in the trash to determine whether or not the item is hazardous waste. ♦

# B Reactor event bolsters reactor museum effort

Steve Sautter, BHI

For some it was a walk down memory lane. For others it was an opportunity to marvel at human ingenuity driven by a world at war.

For everyone in attendance at Hanford's B Reactor on Thursday, June 22, it was an opportunity to recognize nearly 10 years of effort by members of the B Reactor Museum Association to preserve the historic reactor.

The event, co-sponsored by the Department of Energy Richland Operations Office and Bechtel Hanford, Inc., attracted nearly 80 people who toured the 56-year-old facility and heard about ongoing efforts to preserve the reactor for potential use as a museum.

BHI President Mike Hughes welcomed those in attendance and introduced DOE-RL Manager Keith Klein. Klein took the opportunity to thank members of the museum association for their hard work and persistence in helping preserve the historic reactor for the future.

## Seeking grant funds

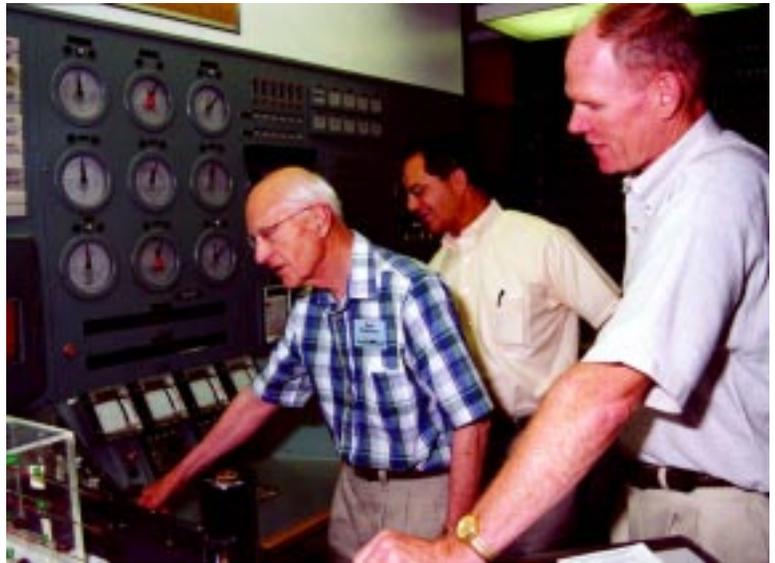
Klein also noted that the Department of Energy has applied for a \$2 million "Save America's Treasures" grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior to use in preserving the reactor for future generations.

Bechtel Hanford is currently responsible for maintenance of B Reactor. In his remarks, Hughes announced that the reactor is being given "project" status, which will bring a coordinated team approach to the effort. It also establishes a single point of contact for questions about the reactor's status while the next steps are being defined.

Hughes presented B Reactor Museum Association President Gene Weisskopf with a \$1,000 check to help with the association's ongoing educational activities. Klein and Hughes also presented certificates of appreciation to association members who have volunteered hundreds of hours of their time to serve as tour guides for visiting groups.

## Public tours

Members of the public have a number of opportunities to visit B Reactor this summer. DOE-RL's Saturday road tours on July 15, Aug. 12 and Aug. 26 will include stops at B Reactor. These tours are filled very quickly, so if you are interested, please contact Jacquie Lewis of Fluor Hanford at 376-0213. ♦



Former B Reactor employee Roger Rohrbacher, left, explains some of the instrumentation in the historic reactor's control room to DOE-RL Manager Keith Klein, center, and BHI President Mike Hughes.



DOE-RL Manager Keith Klein addresses members of the B Reactor Museum Association at an event held June 22 to honor their work. The event was held on the reactor's operating deck in front of the massive reactor face.

# Klein selects Sanders and Schwier for director positions at DOE-RL

Last month, Department of Energy Richland Operations Office Manager Keith Klein announced the selection of two directors within DOE-RL. George Sanders became the new director of the Waste Management Division in the Office of the Assistant Manager for Environmental Restoration and Waste Management. Jeanie Schwier was selected to be the director of the Office of Financial Services and Chief Financial Officer.

Within DOE-RL, Sanders will be responsible for activities involving waste management operations on the Hanford Site. This includes the responsibility of understanding the current issues entailed in the Hanford Waste Management Program and resolving those issues in a way that allows the contractor to successfully manage the stored and forecasted waste, treat the waste when needed and dispose of the waste.

Before he was selected for the division director position, Sanders served as program manager in the Office of Regulatory Liaison since October 1999. He also served as the Tri-Party Agreement administrator for DOE-RL since 1996.

Sanders received both his bachelor of science and master of science degrees in nuclear engineering from the University of Florida, and is a registered professional engineer.

He is also a captain in the U.S. Naval Reserve where he serves as the national director of Reserve Logistics Support and the national director for Reserve Training for the Naval Air Systems Command Reserve Program in Patuxent River, Md.

Sanders came to Hanford in 1991, where he worked within the Waste Management Program as the Grout Program manager, and then transferred to the newly formed Tank Waste Remediation System. Prior to his work at Hanford, Sanders held engineering and managerial positions with Duke Power, Control Data Corporation, and as a civilian in the U.S. Navy. He also worked as an engineering consultant.

Schwier had been serving as the deputy director for the Spent Nuclear Fuels Project. DOE-RL originally recruited her in June 1998 to serve as the SNF business manager, based on her skills and experience in project management and the reduction of operational costs for the Navy.

Prior to coming to Hanford, Schwier was the Nuclear Business Manager for Charleston Naval Shipyard from 1991 to 1994 and for Puget Sound Naval Shipyard from 1994 to 1998. In this capacity she served as the Planning and Integration manager and the Chief Financial Officer for all nuclear work ranging from small material programs to nuclear aircraft carriers. During both assignments, she was instrumental in the development of a detailed workload baseline, performance measures, and the reduction of nuclear work costs.

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## Klein selects Sanders and Schwier for director positions at DOE-RL, cont.

She successfully re-established the credibility of the Puget Nuclear Business Office within the naval community and with its private sector customers.

While at the Charleston Naval Shipyard, Schwier was made the head of Workload Forecasting and Information Systems Officer for the Production Department, and she participated in the development of the Advanced Integrated Management System (AIMS) for the Navy. The development of this process led to the implementation of project management throughout the naval shipyard community. Schwier was the chairwoman for the Strategic Planning and Resource Management Modules of AIMS, which are currently being used throughout various defense operations today.

Schwier has received numerous performance awards from the Navy. She was selected for the Naval Sea Systems Commander's Development Program in 1995. ♦



**PORK BELLY FUTURES:** Fluor Hanford employees ate high on the hog June 26 in a 300 Area lunchtime barbecue celebration. The company marked the achievement of 5 million work hours without a lost-time injury. "This accomplishment is significant because it represents the safe work habits of more than 5,000 individuals," said Fluor Hanford President Ron Hanson. At left, Hanson awaits his turn at the microphone as Becky Austin, Fluor Hanford vice president of Environment, Safety and Health, congratulates employees.

# Static electricity is a hazard when filling gas cans

Summer is here, and many of us will be outside enjoying the warm weather by camping, boating or doing some yard work. Because these activities often involve motors that require gasoline to run, we find ourselves at the local gas station filling portable gas containers for work or play. Did you know that a fire could start as you fill your gas container or refuel your car?

The American Petroleum Institute and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health have recorded reports that fires have spontaneously ignited when people attempted to fill portable gasoline containers in the backs of pickup trucks equipped with plastic bed liners or in the trunks of cars with carpeted surfaces. The culprit is static electricity.

One of many possible causes of static electricity buildup is reentering your vehicle during refueling. This can cause a buildup of static electricity similar to shuffling your feet on the carpet when the air in your home is dry. If get out of your vehicle's interior to remove the filling nozzle without discharging the static buildup, in rare circumstances, a brief flash fire could occur at the filling point if the static discharges and the resulting spark ignites gasoline vapors around the fill spout.

Here are some precautions to take to avoid this potential problem:

- Always turn your vehicle engine off while refueling.
- Never smoke, light matches or use lighters while refueling.
- Do not get back into your vehicle during refueling — even when you use the nozzle's automatic hold-open latch.
- If you must get back into your vehicle, discharge the static electricity buildup when you get out by touching the outside metal portion of your vehicle, away from the filling point, before attempting to remove the nozzle.
- Avoid gasoline spills. Do not over- fill your portable gas container or top off your vehicle fuel tank. The fuel dispenser will shut off automatically when the tank is full.
- Use only the hold-open latch provided on the gasoline pump. Never jam or force the hold-open latch open by using some other object such as the gas cap.
- When filling a portable gas container, use only an approved container. Always place the container on the ground and keep the pump nozzle in contact with the container when refueling to avoid a static electricity ignition of fuel vapors.
- Never fill a portable gas container inside a vehicle, in the trunk, on the bed of a pickup truck, a flat bed or on the floor of a trailer.
- Keep the place in which you are transporting the gas container well-ventilated to avoid buildup of vapors (prop open the trunk of your car).

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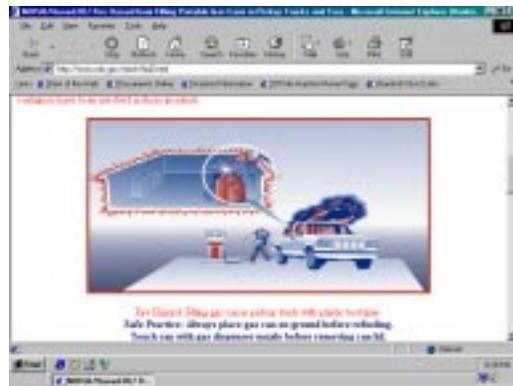
## Static electricity is a hazard when filling gas cans, cont.

- Do not use a cell phone while refueling, as it could serve as an ignition source.

If a flash fire occurs when you are refueling, leave the nozzle in the vehicle fill pipe and back away from the vehicle. Notify the station attendant at once so that all dispensing devices and pumps can be shut off with emergency controls. If the facility is unattended, use the emergency intercom to summon help and the emergency shut-down button to shut off the pump.

Be careful when you refuel or fill your portable gas containers. One gallon of gasoline vaporized is equal to half a case of dynamite in explosive power.

NIOSH and the American Petroleum Institute have additional safety tips and consumer guidelines for the proper storage and handling of gasoline at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh> and at <http://www.api.org/consumer>. ♦



## Silent Thunder, Bold Endeavor deemed successful

Michael Turner, FH

To stay prepared for the ever-changing world of international terrorism, Hanford Site Emergency Preparedness conducted two exercises called "Silent Thunder" and "Bold Endeavor," featuring accident scenarios based on weapons of mass destruction ("Program raises awareness of weapons of mass destruction," *Hanford Reach*, June 12).

Hundreds of site emergency response personnel, local and state emergency officials, an area medical evacuation helicopter and several local actors were mobilized to stage the emergency and respond to it. The scenario featured a terrorist holed up next to the 325 Building with a gun and access to an explosive device supposedly laden with deadly sarin gas, which has the potential of causing mass casualties when released.

The exercise was actually done in two parts. The first, in May, was a "tabletop" drill titled Silent Thunder. In a tabletop exercise, the participants go through scenarios in a room instead of acting out the event at various points on site.



Emergency exercises Silent Thunder and Bold Endeavor dealt with weapons of mass destruction, but were also valuable rehearsals for dealing with last week's brush fire on the site. In Silent Thunder, FBI agents (at left) and Tri-Cities and Hanford officials (top photo, with DOE-RL Manager Keith Klein in the center) review the emergency scenario in "tabletop" fashion before acting it out in Bold Endeavor.

*Continued on page 14.*

## Silent Thunder, Bold Endeavor deemed successful, cont.

The drill was unique in that the Federal Bureau of Investigation facilitated it. The FBI was involved because of the terrorist aspect of the scenario.

“We work in conjunction with several different law enforcement agencies, so working with the FBI is not that uncommon,” said Jim Spracklen, director of the Office of Security and Emergency Services for the Department of Energy Richland Operations Office. “What is uncommon is the introduction of a weapon of mass destruction scenario. We haven’t dealt with that type of incident before C and, hopefully, we never will. But it’s our job to be ready for as many situations as possible.”



Actors from the Kamiakin Dance Team, apparently well coached, were quite convincing — even offering screams and moans to make the event seem more realistic.

### More realism

The tabletop exercise, which went smoothly, was a precursor to the full site-wide exercise on June 15. Exercise Bold Endeavor, centered in the 300 Area, took on real-life characteristics with the help of a troupe of actors from Kamiakin High School. The volunteers played the roles of victims.

A helicopter and crew from MEDSTAR, a Moses Lake-based medical response team, also participated in the exercise. Fluor Hanford Emergency Preparedness Manager Mary Brown said the MEDSTAR team asked to be a part of the drill. “As one of our two contracted medical airlift teams, MEDSTAR offered to land at the site of our drill free of charge. It gave both MEDSTAR and our HFD ground personnel an excellent opportunity to coordinate the landing of a helicopter at an accident scene.”

Meanwhile, as victims were being treated in the parking lot of the 325 Building, another drama was unfolding. The Hanford Patrol was coping with a simulated armed terrorist who was threatening to release more toxic material. The Hanford Patrol and its Hostage Negotiation Team were able to defuse the situation and apprehend the terrorist.

“The exercise was a total success”, said Spracklen. “Emergency personnel responded according to an emerging threat in today’s society C weapons of mass destruction. We showed that we’re prepared for virtually any situation.” ♦



Members of the Hanford Fire Department treated each of the simulated victims in a temporary “decontamination washing station.”

# Regular Features



## LETTERS

Employees are invited to write letters of general interest on work-related topics. Anonymous letters will not be printed. We reserve the right to edit letters or not to accept letters for publication. Send your letters to the *Reach*, B3-30, or to \*Hanford Reach on e-mail. Letters are limited to 300 words, and must include your name, company, work group and location. Opinions expressed are those of the author and not of DOE-RL, ORP or their contractors.

### Thanks for help

I just wanted to say thanks to the two individuals who stopped to assist when my truck was having problems on the way to the outer areas. These two individuals stopped almost immediately to check and see if I needed any assistance. Kudos to you guys.

I know that if I were broken down on the freeway off-site this would not be the case. Thanks for taking care of one of your own.

**Barry Orth**

*Fluor Hanford*

### Commute safely

A comment often heard when discussion turns to Hanford traffic is, "It's no different from conditions anywhere else." It is unfortunately true that congested roadways and unsafe, unskilled or inconsiderate drivers are not uncommon in the world. These elements are evident not only on the streets of large cities, but we also find them here during the morning and evening rush hours.

But there is supposed to be a difference between the drivers in Seattle traffic, for instance, and those of us that make up Hanford traffic. We are members of a workforce that purportedly shares a common safety culture to work safely. Safety does not start at the Hanford Area gates.

The type of behavior (impatience and anger) that detracts from safety at work also affects us traveling to and from work. The concern we share for the safety of fellow workers at the work site needs to be applied to the same workers traveling to their work locations. Why can we give a fellow worker access to a water fountain before ourselves, but not take the same 3 or 4 seconds to let a fellow worker merge into the lane in front of us?

When those of us working in the 400 Area try to get into the inside lane to make the turn onto Route 40, we often are greeted with open acts of hostility ranging from international gestures of ill will to aggressive actions that are intended to block us from changing lanes. There is no other place for us to slow down without dangerously impeding traffic.

So the next time you notice a car signaling to get into the inside lane of Route 4 just south of the 400 Area, give the driver some space. Allow the driver to slow down to be able to make the turn from the rather short left turn lane. Once we make that, we will be out of your way.

**Jim Stowe and other members**  
*of the Project Interface and  
Compliance Safety Council*

*Fluor Hanford*



## CALENDAR

### NMA members to go out to the ballgame

All National Management Association Chapter No. 395 members are invited to bring family and friends to watch the Posse vs. Sonoma game and enjoy a great barbecue on Saturday, July 15, starting at 6:30 p.m. at Posse Stadium in Pasco. The cost of this evening will be \$12 per person. Contact Sharon Wiatrak at 372-3401 or via e-mail, or visit <http://www.nma1.org/chapters/395/> for more information.

### Rover Project reunion planned

In late September, the fifth reunion of those who worked on the Rover Project will be held in Las Vegas, Nev. One highlight will be a tour of the Nevada Test Site. Contact Bill Carlson at [william\\_f\\_bill\\_carlson@rl.gov](mailto:william_f_bill_carlson@rl.gov), or at [billcarl@gte.net](mailto:billcarl@gte.net) for more information. ♦



## NEWSBRIEFS

### Garton approved for PTB transfers

George Garton of CH2M HILL Hanford Group has been approved to receive Personal Time Bank transferred hours. Garton's wife, Karren, recently experienced severe and debilitating side effects from an epidural block. She needs further evaluation and treatment outside the Tri-Cities.

Any CH2M HILL Hanford Group employee who would like to transfer Personal Time Bank hours to Garton should complete a Vacation Transfer Request Form (A-6002-807). Send the completed form to Andi Bischoff, CHG Human Resources, R2-57. Transfers should be in one-hour increments. ♦

# Regular Features



## RETIREMENTS

Announcements of retirement parties and receptions can be run for two consecutive weeks before the event. The deadline for submissions is Thursday, 10 days prior to the first publication date.

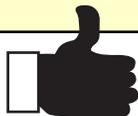
### Farewell reception for Gant July 5

Rick Gant is retiring after more than 23 years at Hanford. A farewell reception for him is scheduled for July 5 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the MO-500 East conference room in the 100K Area. Stop by and wish Rick a happy retirement. Contact Pat Davis at 373-6030 for more information.

### Anderson ends 36-year Hanford career

Dick Anderson is retiring after more than 36 years at Hanford. Come wish him a happy retirement on Friday, July 14, starting at 5 p.m. at the Towne Crier in the Uptown Shopping Center in Richland. ♦

## BRAVO



### Johanson named DOE industrial hygienist of the year

Rich Johanson became the first staff member at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory to receive the Department of Energy's Industrial Hygienist of the Year Award, known as the Don Ross Award, on May 24 during the American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exhibition in Orlando, Fla.

Johanson was honored for his exemplary dedication and contributions to DOE, the protection of workers and the industrial hygiene profession, and for being a key player in the development and success of PNNL's Chemical Management System.

The award is named for Don Ross, the first individual to receive the DOE Industrial Hygienist of the Year Award. It acknowledges exceptional service and contributions to industrial hygiene programs and recognizes industrial hygienists who have demonstrated outstanding dedication to the health protection of workers. Johanson was chosen from among 20 nominations submitted from around the DOE complex.

"I'm really flattered to receive this award," said Johanson.

An industrial hygienist with PNNL since 1989, he leads the management of PNNL's Chemical Management

System, which provides automated chemical inventory tracking, delivery of Material Safety Data Sheets, chemical hazard categorization and facility chemical inventory limits. Johanson also led the transfer of this system to other DOE sites, including Brookhaven National Laboratory and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory. ♦



## SHOEMOBILE

### 100K Area, parking lot south of MO-401

July 11	7 to 9 a.m.	BC Sales
July 12	7:30 to 9 a.m.	Iron Age

### 200 East Area, northeast gravel parking lot of 2101-M

July 7	7 a.m. to noon	Sound Safety
July 11	10 a.m. to noon	BC Sales
July 12	9:30 to 11:30 a.m.	Iron Age

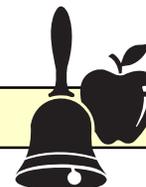
### 200 West Area, parking lot east of MO-281

July 7	1 to 4 p.m.	Sound Safety
July 11	noon to 2 p.m.	BC Sales
July 12	noon to 5 p.m.	Iron Age

### 300 Area, along fence east of Wisconsin Street

July 5	noon to 4 p.m.	Sound Safety
July 11	2 to 5 p.m.	BC Sales

## CLASSES



### WSU Tri-Cities Continuing Education offers :

- **Working with Personality Type Differences** — July 17. Learn about the influence of personality type on your choices and behaviors. Cost: \$349.
- **People Skills: Working Effectively with Others** — July 18. Designed for anyone who wants to communicate more effectively with others. Cost: \$349.
- **The Art of Conflict Resolution** — July 19. Take advantage of the opportunity to practice constructive negotiation skills to resolve work conflicts. Cost: \$349.

*Continued on page 17*

# Regular Features

- **National Electrical Code** — July 24-26. This intensive course is designed to help you understand important code requirements and to gain the practical knowledge you need on the job. Cost: \$1,025.
- **National Electrical Code: 1 Day Update** — July 27. Learn about the most important changes to the code. Note: This refresher is for people already proficient in the NEC. Cost: \$349.
- **Grantwriting Workshop** — July 25–26. This two-day workshop walks you through the practical steps of grantwriting and teaches you how to approach the right funders for the dollars you need. Cost: \$395.  
For more information, call 372-7200 or visit the Web site at [www.ProEd.wsu.edu](http://www.ProEd.wsu.edu).

## Protrain offers computer training

- **Project Management Techniques and Project 98** — July 17-19. Define project specification, implementation of a project, learn different elements of managing a project and become familiar with Microsoft Project 98 environment. Cost: \$759 per person, or register 3 or more people for \$699 each.
- **Introduction to Crystal Reports** — July 19. Create reports and formulas. Cost: \$215.
- **Advanced Crystal Reports** — July 20. Compose enhanced reports and learn the full use of the Crystal Reports program. Cost: \$215.

Call 946-1123 for more information on Protrain courses. ♦



Vanpool ads are run for two weeks. Ads must be resubmitted to run in subsequent issues of the *Hanford Reach*. The deadline for submissions is Thursday, 10 days prior to publication.

Protection Technology Hanford reminds employees to wear their badges. Vanpool and carpool drivers are responsible for ensuring riders are badged. If a passenger forgets his or her badge, Patrol must be informed at the barricades. For more information, look on the Hanford Web in the Projects and Activities section, Safeguards and Security (PHMC) at <http://www.ri.gov:1050/sas/pg1v3htm>.

## BENTON CITY

Benton Franklin Vanpool from Ki-Be Market in Benton City to 200E only. Call **Stephanie** at 373-2387 or **Rick Wilmoth** at 373-5658. 6/26

## KENNEWICK

8x9 vanpool from Kennewick to 200E needs riders. Picks up at Kennewick Albertson's and the Federal Building. Stops at side/back of 2750 and 2704-HV. Contact **John** at 373-1207. 7/3

Great company! Huge benefits! Easy commute. We don't have a job for you, but we have a van. Come join us. Low rates. Richland Wye to 200W. 8x9 shift. Call **Fred** at 373-2106. 6/26

## RICHLAND

Vanpool No. 116 from Richland to 200E needs riders for 8x9, 7-4:30 shift. Picks up at Chevron gas station at McMurray and Jadwin. Drops off at 2750-E, 2751-E, MO-285, MO-286 and MO-384. Call **Nester Wise** at 376-6373. 6/26

Van No.108 (standard 8x9 shift) leaves Albertson's on Gage, travels through Hills West, picks up at Bookwalter Park 'n Ride on Columbia Drive. Travels to 2750-E, MO-286 and MO-294. Contact **Claudette** at 372-2440 or **Stephen** at 376-2612. 7/3 ♦

**SECURITY Pays in Many Ways**

**Get INVOLVED!**

**Know someone who's  
improving site security?**

Nominate him or her through the "Security Pays In Many Ways" awareness campaign. More info at [Http://www.RI.Gov/sas/pg1v3.Htm](http://www.RI.Gov/sas/pg1v3.Htm), or call 376-1820.

# Regular Features



**H**.anford **E**.mployee **R**.ecreation **O**.rganization

## **HERO POLICY FOR NON-SUFFICIENT FUNDS**

**CHECKS** — Because of recent incidences with NSF checks received by HERO, our future policy will be to pass associated NSF bank fees on to check issuers. HERO will no longer absorb those costs.

## **HANFORD BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND AREA REPS/HERO ACTIVITIES/TICKET SELLERS INFORMATION**

— A reminder that until the new HERO Web page is available, HERO information can be accessed on the Hanford Intranet Web site by clicking on “Project Hanford Management Contractors,” “General Information,” “Hanford Information,” and then clicking “HERO - Hanford Employee Recreation Organization.” To make it easier to access this information, we suggest that you save the site to “Favorites” (located on the toolbar).

## **HANFORD RECREATION ASSOCIATION (HRA) DISCOUNTS**

— Check out the HRA listing often! New vendors are continually added. It's located on the Hanford Intranet Web site. To reach the site, click on “Project Hanford Management Contractors,” “General Information,” “Hanford Information,” and then “Hanford Recreation Discounts.” Our new Web page is in the making...stand by for further instructions!

**NEW 400/600 AREA HERO REPRESENTATIVE** — Congratulations, Jackie Roderick, and welcome to HERO! Jackie can be reached at 373-7316.

**DISCOUNTED POSSE TICKETS** — \$3 per person for general seating season home games, with the exception of play-off games. For an additional cost, the Posse ticket office will upgrade your general seating tickets to box seating. Send checks made payable to “Posse” to Nancy Zeuge (X3-74), Marvene McChesney (T4-61) or Margaret Vasquez (G1-27).

## **THE RICHLAND PLAYERS DISCOUNT TICKETS**

— Discounts of \$1 for individual shows and \$4 for season tickets offered to all HRA cardholders. HRA cards must be presented at the box office to receive discounts.

**DISCOUNTED CARMIKE MOVIE TICKETS** — \$4.50 each with a limit of six per purchase. Restrictions will apply only to Sony DDS movies. A disclaimer for restricted movies will be noted in the *Tri-City Herald* Carmike announcements. Send checks made payable to “HERO” to Michelle Brown-Palmore (A7-51), Linda Sheehan (T4-40), Nancy Zeuge (X3-74) or Patti Boothe (T6-04).

**DISCOUNTED REGAL MOVIE TICKETS** — \$4 each with a limit of six per purchase. Send checks made payable to “HERO” to Michelle Brown-Palmore (A7-51), Linda Sheehan (T4-40), Nancy Zeuge (X3-74) or Patti Boothe (T6-04).

**DISCOUNTED MERCY MOVIE TICKETS** — \$5 each with a limit of six per purchase. Tickets honored at all Yakima Mercy theaters with no restrictions. Send checks made payable to “HERO” to Flu Garza (T4-01) or Nancy Zeuge (X3-74).

**HERO OASIS WATER NIGHT** — Come to the Oasis Water Park on July 13 and enjoy a fun-filled family evening from 7 to 10 p.m. Tickets are only \$6 each and include admission, hot dogs, chips, pop and cookies. We have a limited supply of tickets and because they sold rapidly last year, we suggest you purchase them early to ensure admission. Tickets will not be sold at the gate! Send checks made payable to “HERO” to Marvene McChesney (T4-61), Nancie Simon (H6-18) or Nancy Zeuge (X3-74).

**SILVERWOOD THEME PARK** — Silverwood is into summertime full swing! Check out HERO's Intranet Web site for a complete schedule of days and times. Adult tickets are \$17.84 (normally \$25.19), youth (ages 3-7) and senior (ages 65 and over) tickets are \$9.44 (normally \$16.79). Send checks made payable to “HERO” to Jan Dickinson (H2-23) or Laurie Franklin (R2-12). Personal checks for purchases in excess of \$250 will not be accepted. Send a cashier's check or money order for payments in excess of \$250. No cash, please!

**PENDLETON ROUND-UP TIME** — Sept. 16. Saddle up and head on down to the Pendleton Round-Up! Tickets are \$13 each with a limit of 4 per person on a first-come, first-served basis. Don't delay. Tickets will sell fast! Send checks made payable to “HERO” to Deyonne Southwick at T5-05.

More information will appear in the *Reach* and on the Hanford Intranet Web site as details develop. ♦